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R. Alan Burnett BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP Seventh Floor 12400 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026				
		EXAMINER DEWS, BROOKE J		
		ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER 2182		
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/727,277	Applicant(s) ALAPPAT ET AL.	
	Examiner Brooke J. Dews	Art Unit 2182	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 May 2007.
 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-13 and 15-28 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) ☒ Claim(s) 10-13,16 and 17 is/are allowed.
 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-7,9,15,18-22 and 24-28 is/are rejected.
 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8 and 23 is/are objected to.
 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 May 2007 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's arguments filed 05/17/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Claims 2 and 14 are cancelled.

In response to the rejection under 35 USC 101 contained in the Office action of 03/22/2007, applicant has amended the specification to remove any reference to non-statutory embodiments. However, the claims still encompass such embodiments. Until such time as applicant specifically disavows and/or disclaims the deleted embodiments the rejection will be maintained.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 3 and 7 objected to because of the following informalities: Examiner notes applicant to be aware of maintaining the same terms in limitations. Claim 3 and 7 both use the term "the network address" and "the static network address", though depending on Claim 1 which uses the term "a static network Internet Protocol ("IP") address ". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. By itself, it is unclear as to the measure of protection applicant is seeking,

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regarding claim 15. It appears applicant wishes to make claim 15 dependent of a previous claim, but fails to indicate which claim. Correction/clarification is required.

Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant claims "the IP address is assigned dependent upon the shelf and slot addresses and independent of the PCB or the plurality of components on the PCB"; it appears applicant wants to claim, "a static network address is assigned in a manner that is independent of the MAC address of the board" as stated in applicant's Paragraph [0017] and not independent of the printed circuit board itself as limitation of claim 22. Correction/clarification is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

5. Claim 24-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 24-28 recite a machine-readable medium to provide instructions wherein the product might not be limited to tangible embodiment. Applicant provides (in paragraph 50 of the specification) evidence that applicant intends the machine-readable medium to provide instructions using "propagated signals such as electrical, optical, acoustical or other form of propagated signals e.g., carrier waves, infrared signals, digital signals, etc". As such, the claim is not limited to statutory subject matter and is therefore non-statutory.

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To expedite a complete examination of the instant application, the claims rejected under 35 USC 101 (nonstatutory) above are further rejected as set forth below in anticipation of applicant amending these claims to place them within the four statutory categories of invention and to overcome the abstract idea rejection above. Correction/clarification required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
 2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
 3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
 4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.
6. Claims 1, 3-6, 18-20, 24, 25, 27, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kirk Yates et al. (US Publication 2004/0230866), hereafter Yates in view of David Lawrence Evans (US Patent 6898702) hereafter Evans. Bruce S. Harrison et al. (US Publication 2004/0177133), hereafter Harrison.

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Regarding claim 1 Yates discloses a method, comprising:

determining a shelf address [**Get Shelf Address Information commands; Paragraph (0066)**] and a slot address slot [**via Get Address Info command Paragraph (0065)**] of a board installed in a card modular platform [**via test assembly 100; Paragraph (0019)**]; wherein the shelf address corresponds to a physical shelf (**location of a shelf**) of the card modular platform and the slot address corresponds to a physical slot location on the shelf (**via individual locations with in a shelf**) of the card modular platform; (**Figure 4B depicts multiple slots and shelves in backplanes**)

However Yates does not explicitly disclose automatically assigning a static network Internet Protocol ("IP") address for at least one network port on the board based on a combination of the shelf address and the slot address.

Evans discloses automatically assigning a static network Internet Protocol ("IP") address [**network address**] for at least one network port [**via system module 405**] on the board based on a combination of the shelf address and the slot address. [**Column 5 line 22-25**]

Evans and Yates are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor involving network configuration.

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use Evans' assigning an IP address with Yates determination of shelf and slot address methods. The motivation for doing so would have been to improve the rate at which all of the modules (via network ports) may be started because the message traffic associated with providing the shared data resources may be beneficially distributed. [**Column 3 line 13-20 of Evans**]

Therefore it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate IP addresses of Evans with Yates' slot and shelf determination methods.

Claim 3 is rejected for the reason set forth hereinabove for claim 1, and further Yates discloses the method wherein the network address is automatically assigned by performing an algorithm [**via configuration**] that generates a unique address in response to providing the shelf and/or slot addresses [**via get address info and get shelf address information commands**] as inputs to the algorithm. [**Paragraph (0020 and 0065-67)**]

Claim 4 is rejected for the reason set forth hereinabove for claim 3, and further Yates discloses the method further comprising executing instructions [**commands**] stored [**via non-volatile**]

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memory] on the board **[via field replaceable unit, FRU]** to perform the algorithm. **[Paragraph (0075)]**

Claim 5 is rejected for the reason set forth hereinabove for claim 1, and further Yates discloses the method wherein the shelf and the slot addresses are respectively obtained by issuing GetAddressInfo **[Paragraph (0065)]** and GetShelfAddressInfo **[Paragraph (0066)]** IPMI (Intelligent Platform Management Interface) commands **[Paragraph 0056)]**.

Claim 6 is rejected for the reason set forth hereinabove for claim 1, and further Yates discloses the method wherein the board is made by an original equipment manufacturer (OEM) the shelf and the slot addresses are obtained by employing OEM-specific IPMI (intelligent Platform Management Interface) commands **[Paragraph (0056 and 0065-66)]**.

Regarding claim 18 Yates discloses a card modular platform board, comprising:

a printed circuit board (PCB)**[via test assembly 100; Paragraph (0019)]** on which a plurality of components are operatively coupled **[Figure 1]** and linked in communication via circuitry on the PCB **[100]**, including, a processor **[via control element 110];**

memory **[via 110];**

at least one backplane connector **[backplane interface 102]**, configured to couple to a backplane **[206; Figure 2A]** installed in a card modular platform shelf having a plurality of slots **[Figure 4A];**

a network interface **[via intelligent peripheral management interface, IPMI 812; Paragraph (0056-57)]** coupled to a network port;

and at least one of a non-volatile storage device and a mass storage device **[via 110; Paragraph (0019)];**

and machine executable instructions **[commands]** stored in said at least one of a non-volatile storage device and a mass storage device, which when executed by the processor perform operations in response to insertion of the board into a slot **[Paragraph (0001)]**, comprising:

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determining an address for the shelf and the slot **[via Get Address Info and Get Shelf Address Information commands; Paragraph (0006 and 0065-66)]**;

and automatically assigning a static network address **[via Set Shelf Address Information command]** for the network port based on the shelf address and the slot address. **[Paragraph (0067)]**

Evans discloses automatically assigning a static network Internet Protocol ("IP") address **[network address]** for at least one network port **[via system module 405]** on the board based on a combination of the shelf address and the slot address. **[Column 5 line 22-25]**

Evans and Yates are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor involving network configuration.

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use Evans' assigning an IP address with Yates determination of shelf and slot address methods. The motivation for doing so would have been to improve the rate at which all of the modules (via network ports) may be started because the message traffic associated with providing the shared data resources may be beneficially distributed. **[Column 3 line 13-20 of Evans]**

Therefore it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate IP addresses of Evans with Yates' slot and shelf determination methods.

Claim 19 is rejected for the reason set forth hereinabove for claim 18, and further Yates discloses the card modular platform board wherein the machine instructions **[commands]** comprise firmware instructions stored in a non-volatile memory **[via field replaceable unit, FRU]**. **[Paragraph (0075)]**

Claim 20 is rejected for the reason set forth hereinabove for claim 18, and further the modified Yates discloses the card modular platform board wherein execution of the machine instructions **[commands]** automatically assigns the IP address by performing an algorithm **[via configuration]** that generates a unique address in response to providing the shelf and slot addresses **[via get address info and get shelf address information commands]** as inputs to the algorithm. **[Paragraph (0020 and 0065-67)]**

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Regarding claim 24 Yates discloses a tangible machine-readable medium to provide instructions, which when executed by a card modular platform board performs operations in response to insertion of the board into a slot of a card modular platform shelf, including:

determining an address for the shelf and the slot; [via **Get Shelf Address Information commands; Paragraph (0066)** and via **Get Address Info command Paragraph (0065)**]

Yates does not explicitly disclose automatically assigning a static Internet Protocol ("IP") address for the network port based on the shelf address and the slot address.

Evans discloses automatically assigning a static network Internet Protocol ("IP") address [network address] for the network port [via system module 405] based on the shelf address and the slot address. [Column 5 line 22-25]

Evans and Yates are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor involving network configuration.

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use Evans' assigning an IP address with Yates determination of shelf and slot address methods. The motivation for doing so would have been to improve the rate at which all of the modules (via network ports) may be started because the message traffic associated with providing the shared data resources may be beneficially distributed. [Column 3 line 13-20 of Evans]

Therefore it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate IP addresses of Evans with Yates' slot and shelf determination methods.

Claim 25 is rejected for the reasons set forth hereinabove for claim 24, and further discloses the tangible machine-readable medium, wherein execution of the machine instructions automatically assigns the IP address by performing an algorithm [via configuration] that generates a unique address in response to providing the shelf and slot addresses [via get address info and get shelf address information commands] as inputs to the algorithm. [Paragraph (0020 and 0065-67)]

Claim 27 is rejected for the reason set forth hereinabove for claim 24, and further Yates discloses the tangible machine-readable medium wherein the medium comprises a firmware

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storage device [via non-volatile memory], and the instructions [commands] comprise firmware [via field replaceable unit, FRU]. [Paragraph (0075)]

Claim 28 is rejected for the reason set forth hereinabove for claim 24, and further discloses the tangible machine-readable medium of claim 24, wherein the shelf and the slot addresses are respectively obtained by issuing GetAddressInfo [Paragraph (0065)] and GetShelfAddressInfo [Paragraph (0066)] IPMI (Intelligent Platform Management Interface) commands via execution of the instructions [Paragraph 0056)].

7. Claims 7 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kirk Yates et al. (US Publication 2004/0230866), hereafter Yates in view of David Lawrence Evans (US Patent 6898702) hereafter Evans as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Bruce. S. Harrison et al. (US Publication 2004/0177133), hereafter Harrison.

Claim 7 is rejected for the reasons set forth hereinabove where the modified Yates discloses claim 1, however the modified Yates does not explicitly disclose wherein the network address is automatically assigned by performing a query on a lookup table containing a unique network address for each shelf address and slot address combination to obtain the static network address.

Harrison discloses the method wherein the network address [IP address] is automatically assigned by performing a query on a lookup table [via database] containing a unique network address [via MAC address] for each shelf address and slot address combination [via end device] to obtain the static network address. [Paragraph (0171)]

Harrison and Yates are analogous art because they are in the same field of endeavor involving network computer configuration and assigning characteristics to a system.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate Harrison's intelligent configuration methods with Yate's test system. The motivation behind such combination being for easily adjusting to new business models or service delivery and to have more control of how the IP address can be assigned. [Paragraph (0026-0027) of Harrison]

Claim 9 is rejected for the reason set forth hereinabove for claim 7, and further Yates discloses the method further comprising storing the lookup table on the board. **[Paragraph (0059)]**

8. Claims 21 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kirk Yates et al. (US Publication 2004/0230866), hereafter Yates in view of David Lawrence Evans (US Patent 6898702) hereafter Evans, as applied to claim 18, and further in view of Steven M. French (US Publication 2002/0073249), hereafter French.

Claim 21 is rejected for the reason set forth hereinabove for claim 18, and further Yates discloses the card modular platform board further comprising data stored in said at least one of a non-volatile storage device and a mass storage device comprising a lookup table **[via field replaceable unit records/ address table; Paragraph (0059 and 0064)]** containing a unique network address for respective shelf address and slot address combinations,

Yates does not explicitly disclose wherein execution of the machine obtains the static network address by performing a query on a lookup table using the shelf and slot addresses that are determined as inputs.

French discloses wherein execution of the machine obtains the static network address by performing a query on a lookup table **[via DHCP log 454]** using the shelf and slot addresses that are determined as inputs **[via MAC address associated]**. **[Paragraph (0046, 0049, and 0050)]**

French and Yates are analogous art because they are in the same field of endeavor involving network computer configuration and assigning characteristics to a system.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate French's automatic address associating methods with Yate's test system. The motivation behind such combination being to overcome manually entering number by number the address of each target machine that requires OS software to be distributed to it. **[Paragraph 0009 of French]**

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Claim 26 is rejected for the reason set forth hereinabove for claim 24, and further the modified Yates discloses the tangible machine-readable medium further including data comprising a lookup table **[via field replaceable unit records/ address table; Paragraph (0059 and 0064)]** containing a unique IP address for respective shelf address and slot address combinations,

The modified Yates does not explicitly disclose wherein execution of the instructions obtains the static network address by performing a query on a lookup table using the shelf and slot addresses that are determined as inputs.

French discloses wherein execution of the instructions obtains the static network address by performing a query on a lookup table **[via DHCP log 454]** using the shelf and slot addresses that are determined as inputs **[via MAC address associated]**. **[Paragraph (0046, 0049, and 0050)]**

French and the modified Yates are analogous art because they are in the same field of endeavor involving network computer configuration and assigning characteristics to a system.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate French's automatic address associating methods with the modified Yates' test system. The motivation behind such combination being to overcome manually entering number by number the address of each target machine that requires OS software to be distributed to it. **[Paragraph 0009 of French]**

9. Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kirk Yates et al. (US Publication 2004/0230866), hereafter Yates in view of Steven M. French (US Publication 2002/0073249), hereafter French, in view of Chandrasekharan Nilakantan et al. (US Patent 5526489) hereafter Nilakantan.

Regarding claim 22 Yates discloses a card modular platform board **[100]**, comprising:

a printed circuit board (PCB) **[via test assembly 100; Paragraph (0019)]** on which a plurality of components are operatively coupled and linked **[Figure 1]** in communication via circuitry on the PCB **[100]**, including, a processor **[via control element 110]**;

memory **[via 110]**;

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at least one backplane connector [**backplane interface 102**], configured to couple to a backplane [**206; Figure 2A**] installed in a card modular platform shelf having a plurality of slots [**Figure 4A**];

a network interface [**via intelligent peripheral management interface, IPMI 812; Paragraph (0056-57)**] coupled to a network port;

and at least one of a non-volatile storage device and a mass storage device [**via 110; Paragraph (0019)**];

and machine executable instructions [**commands**] stored in said at least one of a non-volatile storage device or the mass storage device, which when executed by the processor perform operations in response to insertion of the board into a slot [**Paragraph (0001)**], comprising:

determining addresses for the shelf and the slot [**via Get Address Info and Get Shelf Address Information commands; Paragraph (0006 and 0065-66)**];

Yates does not explicitly disclose initializing the network interface; performing client-side operations in a DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol) message exchange to obtain a temporary IP (Internet Protocol) address from a DHCP server; sending the shelf and slot addresses to a boot server; receiving a bootable image along with an IP address from the boot server; booting the bootable image, wherein the IP address that was received from the boot server is assigned by the bootable image as a static IP address for the network port.

French discloses initializing the network interface [**via PCI bus; Figure 2**]. [**Paragraph (0030)**]

performing client-side [**target**] operations in a DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol) message exchange to obtain a temporary IP (Internet Protocol) address from a DHCP server; [**Paragraph (0007-0008)**]

sending the shelf and slot addresses to a boot server; receiving a bootable image along with an IP address from the boot server [**via preboot execution environment, PXE 104/105**];

booting the bootable image [**operating system images**], wherein the IP address that was received from the boot server is assigned by the bootable image as a static IP address for the network port. [**Paragraph (0023)**]

The combination of French and Yates however does not explicitly disclose wherein the IP address is assigned dependent upon the shelf and slot addresses and independent of the PCB or the plurality of components on the PCB.

Nilakantan discloses wherein the IP address is assigned (provided) dependent upon the shelf and slot addresses (based upon the port through which a request is received) and independent of the

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PCB or the plurality of components on the PCB (the physical network address of the device).
(abstract and Column 9 lines 35-50)

Nilakantan, French and the modified Yates are analogous art because they are in the same field of endeavor involving network computer configuration and assigning characteristics to a system.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate Nilakantan's assignment of IP addresses independent of a physical network and French's automatic address associating methods with Yate's test system. The motivation behind such combination being to overcome manually entering number by number the address of each target machine that requires OS software to be distributed to it [**Paragraph 0009 of French**] and to avoid the hassle of having to know the MAC address in advance [**Paragraph 9 lines 40-42 of Nilakantan**].

Allowable Subject Matter

10. Claim 8 and 23 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 10-13, 16, and are allowed.

11. The following are reasons for allowance (See **MPEP 1302.14**):

The primary reasons for allowance of claim 10 in the instant application is the combination with the inclusion in these claims that "receiving a final boot image along with an IP address from the boot server; executing the final boot image; and setting a static IP address for the board in accordance with the IP address that was received from the boot server with the final boot image."

The prior art of record including the disclosures of Kirk Yates et al. (US Publication 2004/0230866), David Lawrence Evans (US Patent 6898702), Steven M. French (US Publication 2002/0073249) neither anticipates nor renders obvious the above recited combination. Because

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claims 11, 12, 13, and 16 depend directly or indirectly on claim 10 these claims are considered allowable for at least the same reasons noted above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably **accompany** the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

IMPORTANT NOTE:

If the applicant should choose to rewrite the independent claims to include the limitations recited in either one of claims 8 or 23, the applicant is encouraged to amend the **title of the invention** such that it is descriptive of the invention as claimed as required by sec. 606.01 of the MPEP. Furthermore, the **Summary of the Invention** and the **Abstract** should be amended to bring them into harmony with the allowed claims as required by paragraph 2 of sec. 1302.01 of the MPEP.

As allowable subject matter has been indicated, applicant's response must either comply with all formal requirements or specifically traverse each requirement not complied with. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(b) and § 707.07(a) of the M.P.E.P.

Response to Arguments

12. Applicant's arguments are summarized as:

A. Yates does not disclose assigning a static IP address that is created based on the combination of a shelf address and a slot address.

In response to applicant's argument "A", examiner notes that Kirk Yates et al. (US Publication 2004/0230866), David Lawrence Evans (US Patent 6898702), Steven M. French (US Publication 2002/0073249) disclose the invention as necessitated by the claims. (See above rejection for claims 1, 18, 22, and 24).

Conclusion

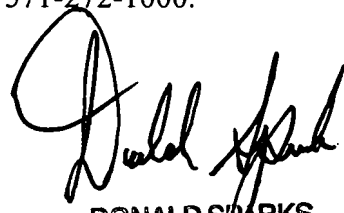
13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. John R. Colton (US Publication 2005/0089027); Fee et al. (US Patent 6618762); Philip D. Olson (US Patent 6438625) for network configuring.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brooke J. Dews whose telephone number is 571-270-1013. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 7:30-5:00, alternate F 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Donald Sparks can be reached on (571) 272-4201. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

BD


DONALD SPARKS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER